



County of San Diego Planning & Development Services

April eBLAST

The third floor has a new look!

Planning & Development Services (PDS) new reception area in the 3rd floor lobby is open for business! We are now able to greet and assist our customers in a friendly and efficient



manner. Customers no longer need to use a phone to contact staff; now someone will be available to help them directly. The new lobby area features an open layout and is fully accessible for people with disabilities. Come and check it out!

Roof-Mounted Solar PV Systems with electrical upgrades available under single online permit



Another time-saver for PDS customers: residential roof-mounted solar PV systems with electrical service upgrades to an existing main panel (maximum 400 amps) now may be processed under a single online permit.

The new permit option combines two individual permit types available through PDS' online services and may be processed via the County's [Citizen Access](#) portal. After selecting the PDS tab, click the "Apply for a Record" link to proceed. A [step-by-step online permit guide](#) also is available to lead customers through the process.

In addition to the combined and individual roof-mounted PV and electrical upgrade permit types, a series of other residential permits are also available for online application:

Board of Supervisors

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

BILL HORN
Fifth District

Planning & Development Services

MARK WARDLAW
Director

DARREN GRETLER
Assistant Director

Important Dates

Board of Supervisors
Calendar and Agendas

Planning Commission
Calendars and Agendas

- Electric heat pump/AC repair or replacement
- Gas line repairs
- Glazing replacement/window retrofits (no net area change)
- HVAC change-outs (including package and split systems, forced air units, wall heaters, and ductwork)
- Water heater replacement
- Water sprinklers (irrigation system connections)

New BMP Sizing Spreadsheet to replace online calculator

The Best Management Practice (BMP) Sizing Calculator hosted on the Project Clean Water website will be removed effective June 30. A new, more intuitive and easier to use BMP Sizing Spreadsheet is now available for download on the Project Clean Water website. PDS and Department of Public Works staff encourage Priority Development Project applicants to download the BMP Sizing Spreadsheet and become familiar with it prior to the expiration of the BMP Sizing Calculator. A user's guide is available with instructions on how to use the BMP Sizing Spreadsheet. For more information visit the [San Diego Model SUSMP and HMP Page](#) on the [Project Clean Water website](#).

For additional information contact the Watershed Protection Program at (858) 694-2961 or e-mail Stuart.Kuhn@sdcounty.ca.gov

Good work by Code Compliance!



PDS Code Compliance received a report from neighbors about an unpermitted mobile home and some people living in a tent and a travel trailer with no hook up to electrical, water or sewage disposal system.

These types of situations create health and safety conditions not only for the occupants but for the neighbors. Staff responded quickly and the property owner removed the mobile home, travel trailer and tent.



Planning Commission considers Form Based Codes for Ramona and Alpine

On May 16 the Planning Commission will consider for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors the proposed zoning ordinance amendments to incorporate new Form Based Codes (Codes) for the communities of Ramona and Alpine. One principle of the General Plan Update is to increase the intensities within town centers where existing commercial infrastructure and facilities exist, while maintaining the rural character of backcountry areas. The Codes are a tool used to implement this principle and allow for greater flexibility and incentives to property owners and

Did you know?

Juan Jose Warner received a 26,689-acre Mexican land grant in 1844, renamed the area Warner Springs and established a trading post that served travelers on the Southern Immigrant Trail between New Mexico Territory and Southern California.

Online Services

[Citizen Access Portal](#)

Research property information and permits. Apply for some permits online.

[GIS Maps](#)

Determine the zoning and characteristics of properties with our web-based mapping tool.



developers while helping to improve the economic viability of town centers. The Codes address the relationship between building facades and the public area, the form and bulk of buildings in relation to one another, and the scale and types of streets and blocks. The Codes for Alpine and Ramona will serve as a stand-alone, all-inclusive regulatory document for how the Alpine and Ramona villages can be developed.

For questions of the Alpine and Ramona FBCs, please contact Joseph Farace at (858) 694-3690 or at joseph.farace@sdcounty.ca.gov

PDS welcomes our new Planning Commissioner

Michael Seiler was nominated by Supervisor Cox and appointed by the Board of Supervisors in March 2014 as the new Planning Commissioner. Michael grew up in the small college town of Mt. Vernon, Iowa. He retired from U.S. Government service in 2008 after serving six years with the U.S. Navy service and 34 years of U.S. Civil Service. Michael served as an engineering program manager with Commander, Naval Air Force U.S. Pacific Fleet staff; branch head of Aircraft Jet Engine Class Desk; and Deputy Director, Force Aviation Maintenance Policy for the U.S. Naval Air Forces. He currently serves as Vice-President of the Sweetwater Valley Civic Association and President, Board of Directors of the Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association.



Michael has an associate degree in Electrical Engineering (computer science) and a Bachelor of Business Administration. He began his post graduate studies at the Naval War College in National Security Decision Making, before halting his graduate studies after 9/11 in order to fully engage in wartime aviation logistics support. Michael and his wife also own a small Hawaiian clothing retail store in National City. Please join us in welcoming our new Planning Commissioner Mr. Michael Seiler.

Welcome aboard!



Andrew Strong

Chief, Support Services

Andrew has been with the County for more than six years, and has most recently served as the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) Staff Officer for the Finance and General

Government Group. Prior to being a CAO Staff Officer, he worked as a Human Resources Analyst in the Employee Development Division of the Department of Human Resources.

Andrew has a Masters in Human Resources Management from

National University and a bachelor's degree in Workforce Education and Development with an emphasis in training from Southern Illinois University. We are excited to welcome Andrew as part of our leadership team.



Sean McLean

Civil Engineer

Sean McLean joins PDS as a Civil Engineer in our Land Development Division. Sean received his bachelor's degree in Engineering Science from University of California San Diego and brings 15 years of project management and Civil Engineering experience to the County. His vast knowledge and experience with project and contract management make him a very valuable asset to the PDS team, but most importantly, to our customers.



Sheri McPherson

Land Use/Environmental Planner III

Sheri McPherson joins PDS by way of the DPW as a Land Use/Environmental Planner III. Sheri has been with the County for close to 15 years managing critical water quality issues as part of the Watershed Protection Program. She joins the Advance Planning Division and will be working with local community planning groups. Her extensive knowledge of County operations, and her experience representing the County for many years in the development of the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program, makes Sheri a valuable asset to PDS.



Vincent Kattoula,

Jr. Land Use/Environmental Planner

Vincent Kattoula joins us permanently as a Jr. Land Use Environmental Planner. He earned his bachelor's degree from San Diego State University in Public Administration and has been a volunteer and temporary employee in the Advance Planning Division since August 2013. Vincent has shown his strong work ethic and dedication, and we look forward to watching his career grow.

Dixie Switzer

Dixie retired from the County after spending more than 13 years as a Land Use Planner. This was actually her second career. Dixie received her law degree from the University of Oregon.

During her tenure at the County she has been involved with many significant projects: the General Plan Update and two Housing Element updates, just to name a couple. Dixie looks forward to enjoying doing things in retirement that she has not been able to do because of her full-time position. Join us in wishing her the



best of luck in this next chapter!

Saul Valdez

Saul retired from the County of San Diego after 19 years, 18 of which were spent as a Code Enforcement Officer (which is not easy to do). Prior to joining the County, Saul worked for the IRS for four years and served on the San Diego Police Department for 15 years. He is retiring to devote all of his time to his tax service.

Dixie and Saul will be truly missed, but we wish them all the best of health and happiness in the coming years.

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